

REMARKS

Claims 11 to 13 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Usui et al. (US 2004/0118382). Claims 16 to 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Usui et al. in view of Takahashi et al. (EP 0507191 A1). Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Usui et al. in view of Takahashi et al. and Gottemoller et al. (US 2004/0200457). Claim 14 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 11-13 and 15-23 have been canceled without prejudice. Claim 14 has been rewritten in independent form.

Reconsideration of the application based on the following is respectfully requested

Claim Objections and Rejections

Claim 14 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 14 has been amended to recite limitations of the independent base claim. Claims 11-13 and 15-23 have been canceled without prejudice.

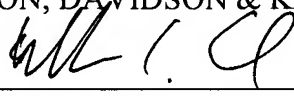
Withdrawal of the objections and of the thus is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The present application is respectfully submitted as being in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,

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